



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/686,247	10/11/2000	Leonel Ernesto Enriquez	50089(SE1579)	6976

7590 06/16/2004

Christopher F Regan Esquire
Allen Dyer Doppelt Milbrath & Gilchrist P A
P O Box 3791
Orlando, FL 32802-3791

EXAMINER

PHAM, TUAN

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
----------	--------------

2643

DATE MAILED: 06/16/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/686,247

Applicant(s)

ENRIQUEZ, LEONEL ERNESTO

Examiner

TUAN A PHAM

Art Unit

2643

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 29 May 2004.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 15-20 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1,2,8 and 9 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 3-7 and 10-14 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

2. Claims 1-2, 8-9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Bird (U.S. Patent No.: 5,784,476).

Regarding claims 1 and 8, Bird teaches a method of selectively enabling each of a plurality of respectively different circuits (i.e., audio source)(see figure 1, audio source 1-1, to 1-N) of a multi-function circuit (see figure 1, audio source 1-1 to 1-N) arrangement to perform its respective signaling function, each respectively different circuit requiring use of the same external passive analog circuit component (i.e., loud speaker)(see figure 1, loud speaker 7, col.3, ln.30-33) to implement its respective signaling function, the method comprising the steps of:

providing a single external passive analog circuit component that corresponds to the same external passive analog circuit component (i.e., loud speaker)(see figure 1, loud speaker 7, col.3, ln.30-33), and

in association with performance of each respectively different circuit function of the multi-function circuit arrangement (see figure 1, audio source 1-1 to 1-N, col.3, ln.25-33),

enabling that one of the plurality of respectively different circuits which performs the each circuit function (see figure 1, audio source 1-1 to 1-N, col.3, ln.25-33), while selectively disabling one or more others of the plurality of respectively different circuits which do not perform the each circuit function (see col.3, ln.23-33), and

coupling the single external passive analog circuit component (i.e., loud speaker)(see figure 1, loud speaker 7, col.3, ln.30-33) to the one of the plurality of respectively different circuits (i.e., loud speaker)(see figure 1, loud speaker 7, col.3, ln.30-33), while decoupling the single external passive analog circuit component from the one or more others of the plurality of respectively different circuits (see figure 1, selector circuit 2, col.3, ln.25-45).

Regarding claims 2 and 9, Bird further teaches a method wherein step comprises coupling single external passive analog circuit component to the one of the plurality of respectively different circuits through a selectively controlled switching circuit having a plurality ports respectively coupled to the plurality of respectively different circuits, and a component coupling port coupled to the single external passive analog circuit component (see figure 1, audio source 1-1 to 1-N, selector circuit 2). Figure 1 clearly shows plurality connectors for connecting audio source to selector circuit.

Allowable Subject Matter

3. Claims 3-7, and 10-14 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.
4. Claims 15-20 are allowed.

Response to Arguments

5. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-20 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Conclusion

6. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. In order to expedite the prosecution of this application, the applicants are also requested to consider the following references. Although Chen et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,881,129), Ludeman (U.S. Patent No. 6,665,398), Saviotti (U.S. Patent No. 5,706,343), and Zobel et al. (U.S. Patent No. 4,431,874) are not applied into this Office Action; they are also called to Applicants attention. They may be used in future Office Action(s). These references are also concerned for supporting the system and method for arrangement for controlling the operating mode of a subscriber line interface circuit and programmable subscriber line interface circuit.

Art Unit: 2643

7. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for response to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the date of this action. In the event a first response is filed within **TWO MONTHS** of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the **THREE-MONTH** shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event will the statutory period for response expire later than **SIX MONTHS** from the date of this final action.

Any response to this final action should be mailed to:

Box AF

**Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231**

or faxed to:

**(703) 872-9314 (for formal communications; please mark
"EXPEDITED PROCEDURE")**

Or:

**If it is an informal or draft communication, please label
"PROPOSED" or "DRAFT")**

Customer Service (703) 306-0377

Hand-delivered responses should be brought to Crystal Park II, 2121

Crystal Drive, Arlington, VA., Sixth Floor (Receptionist

8. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to **Tuan A. Pham** whose telephone number is (703) 305-4987. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday, 8:00 AM-5:00 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Mr. Curtis Kuntz can be reached on (703) 305-4708 and

**IF PAPER HAS BEEN MISSED FROM THIS OFFICIAL ACTION PACKAGE, PLEASE
CALL Customer Service at (703) 306-0377 FOR THE SUBSTITUTIONS OR COPIES.**

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the

Art Unit: 2643

Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR.

Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only.


For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have question on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Art Unit 2643

June 10, 2004

Examiner

Tuan Pham


CURTIS KUNTZ
ASSISTANT PATENT EXAMINER
EBC CENTER 2600